GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1448
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
PROBLEMS OF FARMERS IN BORDER AREAS
Mann Sardar Zora Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers living in border areas are facing problems due to the erection of barbed fences in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to redress their problems?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a)to(c): All the farmers who own their land across the fence are being allowed to cultivate their land for which timings for opening and closing of gates are fixed in consultation with locals. The fence gates manned by BSF personnel in Punjab are opened from morning till evening on all the seven days of the week to facilitate farmers living in border areas to cultivate their lands. Meetings are organized in the respective villages by the District Administration with the village Pradhan, local representative of farmers and the Unit Commander of BSF to sort out local problems,if any.